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TWELVE PAGES — TWO RIYALS

## Ford, Carter advocate direct talks with PLO but Haig stands by policy

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12 (Agencies) — As former U.S. Presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter said in an unprecedented joint interview that the United States should have to open direct discussions with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to advance Middle East peace prospects, Secretary of State Alexander Haig said the U.S. policy with regard to PLO "is unchanged."

Haig was reacting to a statement the former presidents gave to journalists aboard the jet bringing them back from Sadat's funeral in Cairo.

A transcript of the interview by the former presidents was issued by the White House Sunday. On the PLO issue, Ford said: "At some point, the United States will have to talk to the PLO."

Both men said that some Arabs to whom they had spoken said privately they hoped that the peace process would continue. "They have decided they cannot support Camp David. But they are for a continuation of the process," Ford said.

They also expressed hope that Arab leaders could help in the new steps to accelerate the Middle East peace process.

Haig, back in Washington after attending Sadat's funeral, said, "The PLO is completely familiar with the U.S. position relating to their participation in the peace process. There has been no change in this policy."



Alexander Haig

Vice-President George Bush said last week that the United States would not dialogue with the PLO until the organization formally recognized Israel's right to exist. In Beirut, a senior PLO official said the PLO has no interest in dialogue with the United States as proposed by Ford and Carter.

Yasser Arafat Rabbo, a member of the 15-man PLO executive committee, told Reuters: "Such individual views do not interest us at all. These statements are only meant to cover up the real policy of the current U.S. administration, which has as its primary aim the liquidation of the PLO and the national rights of the Palestinian people."

He added: "We do not want to enter into a dialogue with the U.S. and we are not seeking one... what is required is not a dialogue but abolishing Camp David and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and recognizing our people's rights."

Meanwhile, the Israeli government unofficially made known its displeasure Monday at statements by Ford and Carter.

A statement in Tel Aviv distributed to reporters by government officials who refused to be identified said the remarks by Ford and Carter were "especially inappropriate coming so soon after the PLO expressed joy over the assassination of President Anwar Sadat."

The officials said in reply to questions that they insisted on anonymity because their government did not wish to issue formal reactions to statements by out-of-office U.S. personalities.

### As party session begins today

## Thatcher to be firm with opponents

BLACKPOOL, Oct. 12 (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will take a firm stand against growing dissent in her Conservative Party at its annual conference this week, party sources said Monday.

She will reject demands, led by former Prime Minister Edward Heath, for a change in her stringent economic strategy which has allowed unemployment to reach a post-war record of about three million. Some 5,000 Conservatives from all over Britain gathered in the seaside resort of Blackpool, in north west England, for the four-day annual conference which opens Tuesday.

With attacks mounting in the party on her economic policies, partly inspired by American monetarism economist Milton Friedman, the conference promises to be one of the liveliest for many years. In a major speech scheduled for Friday, regarded as one of the most important of her career, Mrs. Thatcher will issue a strong call for party unity, the sources said.

Conservatives recalled her emotional speech to last year's conference, at which she rejected demands for a policy turn with the phrase "the lady's not for turning". She won a standing ovation, although criticism was then largely confined to the opposition.

Police stepped up security surrounding the conference following Saturday's Irish guerrilla bomb blast in London which killed a woman and injured 38 persons. Detectives watching out for guerrillas visited every hotel and boarding house in the sprawling resort. Mrs. Thatcher is confident she does not have major dissension, party sources said. Conservative party officials have taken soundings and told Mrs. Thatcher she can count on traditional Conservative loyalty.

But Heath, who was ousted as party leader by Mrs. Thatcher in 1975, has been joined in his attacks by two former cabinet ministers as well as a 13-strong group of members of parliament. Norman St. John Stevas, recently dropped from the cabinet, said: "There is widespread disquiet throughout the party at the way things are going."

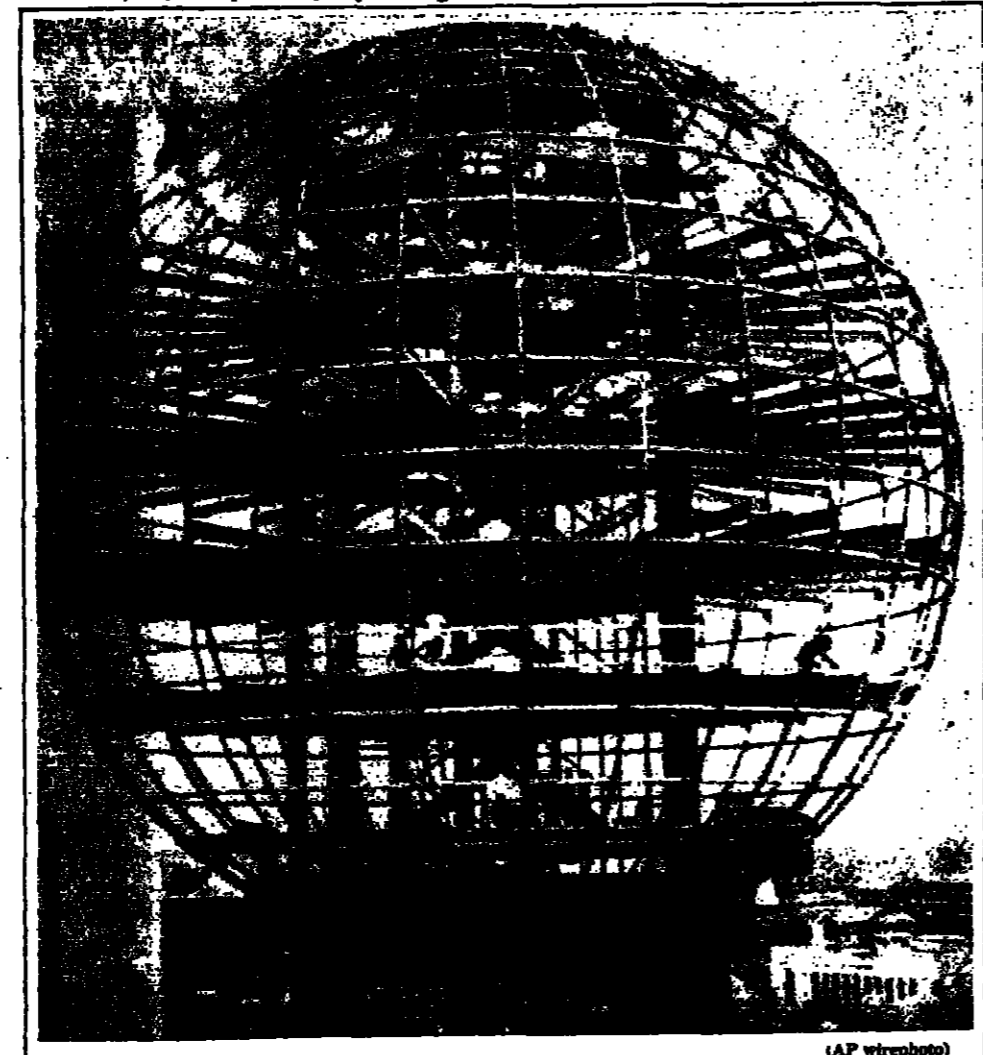
Sir Ian Gilmour, a deputy foreign secretary sacked last month, has accused Mrs. Thatcher of steering Britain "full speed ahead for the rocks." The chancellor of the exchequer (finance minister), Sir Geoffrey Howe, made clear at the weekend that the government would not drop its strategy, founded on attacking inflation through monetary control

and cuts in state spending.

Heath plans to address unofficial meetings at Blackpool but has not so far asked to speak at the conference, although party officials indicated he could do so. Mrs. Thatcher won power in May, 1979, and need not call a general election until 1984 provided she can maintain party unity. But party managers

admit privately that morale in the party is low. Unemployment is expected to reach three million next week, the highest total since records began.

Company profits, squeezed by tight money and high interest rates, have been at an historically low level and there has been a string of bankruptcies.



(AP wirephoto)

**SUNSPHERE:** A five level steel-framed globe tops the Sunisphere which is under construction in Knoxville, Tenn., for the Energy Expo '82. This edition of a world's fair, first since 1974, will open May 1, 1982. Designers of the Sunisphere are Community Tectonics Inc., architects of Knoxville and Stanley O. Lindsey and Associates, engineers of Nashville. More than 600 tons of steel have been fabricated for the project.

## Regan sees interest rate fall

PARIS, Oct. 12 (R) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan said in an interview published Monday that U.S. interest rates could drop to around 17 percent by the end of

the year compared with the present 19 percent.

He said one of the reasons for high U.S. rates, which many European critics have blamed for prolonging the world recession, was the selling by European central banks of their holdings of U.S. government securities to prop up their own currencies.

"This aggravates the problem by forcing Wall Street to keep the rates higher on these and other debt issues," Regan told Danielle Hunebelle's *International Letter*, a Paris-based monthly business publication.

"I don't want to get into a guessing game, but I would not argue against forecasts that have the prime rate down around 17 percent by the end of the year," he said.

The prime is the rate charged by banks to their best commercial customers. Regan also said the U.S. willing to offer fair, rather than free, opportunities to its trading partners.

He added: "That is our message to the Europeans and Japanese. We will buy your products and we want you to buy ours in a competitive situation. Where we draw the line is where countries have used the American market as a dumping ground to avoid having to make the needed inflation adjustments to their own economy."

## West plans oil alternative

PARIS, Oct. 12 (R) — A six-point plan adopted by industrial countries to expand production of synthetic fuels could significantly increase their energy self-reliance by the end of the century, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said in a report issued Monday.

The report, drawn up by experts of the 21 member countries, was prepared after decisions taken by leaders of the seven main industrial nations at their economic summits in 1979 and 1980 to cut oil use and maintain economic growth.

Energy ministers from all IEA countries approved the report last June and the IEA staff will now monitor their progress. The report says the equivalent of an extra 1.6 to 2.6 million barrels of oil a day could be produced in the form of liquid fuels and gas by 1990 from six alternative sources to oil.

If enough industrial plants are built this decade to reach the 1990 target, these synthetic energy sources could produce the equivalent of an extra five to 11.6 million barrels of oil daily by the year 2000. This compares with the current total OPEC oil output of about 20 million barrels daily.

The experts examined commercial projects for producing synthetic fuels from such sources as conventional oil from tar sands, heavy oils and oil shales, direct and indirect liquefaction of coal, gas from coal, liquids from natural gas, new coal combustion technologies and products such as cellulose.

Donald Kerr, U.S. chairman of the group of experts, told reporters problems could be caused by the high cost of building plants for the new technologies, long construction times, high interest rates and budget constraints in many countries.

## Japan to market 2 instant cameras

TOKYO, Oct. 12 (AP) — Fuji Photo Film Co. announced Monday it will begin marketing Japan's first instant camera system Saturday.

Fuji said it will offer two instant camera models — one that holds a 10-sheet film package priced at \$125 and another fitted with an instant stroboscope costing \$70, Kyodo News Service reported.

The film package will sell for \$10 and the stroboscope for \$38 Kyodo said.

## Claims security in peril

# Keep hands off Egypt, Soviet Union warns U.S.

MOSCOW, Oct. 12 (Agencies) — The Soviet Union Monday gave Washington a "hands off Egypt" warning, and said its own security was affected by American moves in the Middle East since the assassination of Sadat.

U.S. Embassy sources said Charge d'Affaires Warren Zimmermann was summoned to the Soviet Foreign Ministry Sunday and handed the message by First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgy Komiyenko. It was published on the front page of the Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* Monday.

The message accused Washington of raising tension in the Middle East by putting its forces on the alert. It was similar to a series of warnings which Moscow issued when the Shah's rule collapsed in Iran. "The Soviet government resolutely condemns U.S. interference in any way in the internal affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt," the statement said. "What is happening around Egypt cannot but affect the interests and security of the Soviet Union and it will attentively follow the development of events," the statement added.

The Soviet statement is expected to become the keynote for the official press here in its presentation of future events in Egypt. Western diplomats said they expected Moscow would avoid any criticism of President Sadat's successor Hosni Mubarak, and would concentrate on attacking the United States.

The Soviet statement appeared to have been drafted by Moscow as a reply to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who warned Moscow last week not to interfere in Egypt.

Diplomats said Moscow clearly wanted to make a fresh start in relations with Egypt, which was once its closest friend in the Middle East but became its fiercest opponent under President Sadat. The Kremlin has been effectively shut out of Middle East peacemaking efforts since the Camp David agreement between Egypt and Israel.

The latest statement appeared to signal Moscow's close interest in developments in Egypt, without making any concrete commitments.

In Cairo, Egypt Monday rejected the Soviet charge that the United States, in increasing the level of readiness of its warships in the Mediterranean Sea following Sadat's death, was interfering in Cairo's affairs. Moscow's attitude, one official said, is proof of "the hegemony that the USSR is trying to exert in the Middle East."

Tass, commenting on U.S.-Egyptian plans to hold joint exercises said in a Monday morning dispatch that the United States is pursuing a "perilous policy" of raising tension in the Middle East, based on "selfish, hegemonic aspirations." Tass noted in particular a U.S. television appearance Sunday by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig in which Haig said the exercises next month will include "a highly increased U.S. presence."

The Tass report followed Sunday's Soviet government statement to the United States, which accused Washington of exerting "gross pressure" on Egypt following Sadat's assassination by alerting American military forces in the Mideast and Mediterranean areas. The statement did not say specifically how events in Egypt might affect Soviet security, but Western diplomats here said the comment appeared to be a general reassertion of the Soviet role in the Middle East.

Western diplomats meanwhile said the United States appeared ready to coax Israel into making concessions to Egypt to preserve the peace process between the two countries.

U.S. sources in Cairo said Sunday the murder of Sadat showed the need for progress at the stalled negotiations on Palestinian autonomy. The talks, a key component of the Camp David peace accords, have made little headway since they began in May, 1979, with Israel refusing to grant the Palestinians wide-ranging powers.

Many analysts believe that Israel's tough line weakened Sadat's domestic standing and that the Americans are anxious to stop the same thing happening to Mubarak. Speculation that Washington is pressing Israel to be more flexible heightened after remarks made by Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Speaking on Israeli radio, Shamir rejected suggestions that Israel should bring forward its final withdrawal from Sinai. The last portion of Israeli-occupied territory in the peninsula is due to be handed back to Egypt next April.



Hosni Mubarak

## Khaled meets pilgrim heads

JEDDAH, Oct. 12 (SPA) — King Khaled received heads of pilgrimage missions of the Cameroon, Lebanon, Gambia, Palestine, North Yemen, Ghana, Sudan and India.

The missions were led by Hamadi Alim, the Cameroon ambassador to Saudi Arabia; Mahmoud Hafez, the former Lebanese ambassador to the Kingdom; the head of religious affairs in Gambia; Rafiq Natsha, representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization here; Ali Al-Samman, North Yemen justice minister; Sayed Osman, Ghana presidential representative; Dr. Abdul Malek Abdullah, the Sudanese secretary general for religious affairs; and Khurshid Alam Khan, Indian state minister for commerce.

## Newsweek says U.S., Egypt plan panel

NEW YORK, Oct. 12 (Agencies) — The United States and Egypt are preparing a joint military commission to study potential responses to any Libyan attack on Sudan or any Soviet-backed aggression in northern Africa, *Newsweek* magazine reported Monday.

The assassination of President Anwar Sadat last Tuesday helped accelerate a process which was decided earlier this year, *Newsweek* said, quoting senior Egyptian officials. Egypt even considered invading Libya to counter what it believed was Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi's expansionist aims in the region, according to the report.

"Every plan is ready," *Newsweek* quoted one ranking Egyptian official as saying, "but believe me, we need equipment to fulfill our plans. We are in a hurry — any delay would be dangerous." Secretary of State Alexander Haig Sunday told the National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) that Washington and Cairo planned "very extensive" joint maneuvers in Egypt.

*Newsweek* said these exercises, named

"Operation Bright Star," would include airlifting Egyptian troops over Sudan under the cover of an Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) radar jet. A small detachment from the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force would also take part, the magazine said.

The Egyptian-American military cooperation last year included two joint military exercises in the Egyptian desert.

Haig said before leaving Cairo Sunday that the joint exercises planned for November, involving Egyptian troops and the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force, will be expanded and enlarged to include forces of some other states. American B-52 bombers will be included for the first time, Haig said. "We are going to have to show our presence here from time to time," Haig said demonstrating that it is not fatal to be in ally of the United States.

But the head of Egypt's National Progressive Unionist Opposition Party said he believed the statements of Haig and other U.S. officials had applied too much pressure on President-designate Hosni Mubarak.

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# Pilgrims prepare for journey home

JEDDAH, Oct. 12 (SPA) — Planes carrying pilgrims home after the completion of the pilgrimage began taking off at King Abdul Aziz International Airport here Monday morning. The departure of the pilgrims is organized according to the instructions of Pilgrimage and Endowments Minister Sheikh Abdul Wahhab Abdul Wasie.

A special committee, comprising representatives of all authorities concerned with the pilgrimage, supervised the flights schedule. The committee will be active until the departure process is completed.

Three pilgrimage transport centers have been opened in Makkah and Jeddah to organize the transportation of pilgrims whose

departure time is due and to see that no pilgrim is delayed for more than 24 hours.

Meanwhile, for pilgrims departing by sea, Jeddah Islamic Port will receive the first group of pilgrims leaving for home, which includes Pakistani and Egyptian nationals. All authorities concerned with pilgrimage affairs at the port have been mobilized to serve the pilgrims and facilitate departure procedures according to the pilgrimage and endowments minister's decisions. The port's pilgrims city in Jeddah has been equipped with all necessary facilities to accommodate pilgrims whose departure time is not due.

The minister issued his instructions Thursday which said that no pilgrims will depart before being cleared from this year's pilgrimage of any epidemic disease by the Health Ministry, a customary procedure every year. The instructions introduced a new rule which states that air pilgrims are not allowed to exit from Makkah to Jeddah until 36 hours before their departure time.

Sea pilgrims who are to board vessels that take less than 1,500 passengers will be transported from Makkah to Jeddah port 48 hours prior to their departure time; while those boarding larger vessels will be allowed to exit 72 hours before their departure time.

Pilgrims who arrived by land will depart by land, and by the same means which brought them into the country. Each vehicle will be checked and is supposed to have its manifest matching the passports of its passengers. Authorities will affirm that all passengers of a certain vehicle are present, or it should have documents confirming the legality of any of the passengers to stay behind.

In other pilgrimage news, Sheikh Abdul Wasie thanked, on behalf of all pilgrims, the Posts, Telegraph and Telephones Ministry for its sincere efforts during this year's pilgrimage. He commended, in a cable to PTT minister Dr. Alawi Darwish Kayyal, the high standard of telephone and telex services and the minister's attention. Sheikh Abdul Wasie said the factors had greatly facilitated pilgrims needs for quick communications which were provided throughout the holy places.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Indian pilgrimage mission led by State Minister for Commerce Khurshid Alam Khan commended the excellent arrangements and assistance extended by the Kingdom's government to all pilgrims.

# Computers aid telephone work

RIYADH, Oct. 12 — The computers in Saudi Telephone's data center here are now operating 24 hours-a-day, Saudi Telephone reported Monday. The company has added recently a third shift to its computing staff in the data center.

"Fully trained Saudi nationals are on duty at all times, helping to meet the increased workload caused by the rapidly-expanding telephone network," a spokesman said. In the last six months alone Saudi Telephone has had to increase the number of computer jobs processed each week from 5,000 per week to 8,000 jobs per week, a rise of some 60 percent. The surge in the number of subscribers in the Kingdom, and the complexity of operating a space-age telecommunications system are the main reasons for the dramatic rise in the amount of computer work needed, a spokesman added.

A total of 33 highly qualified experts now handle the technical and manage-

ment tasks involved in the computer operations in order to keep pace with the Kingdom's computer requirements. Saudi Telephone's "management by objectives" approach ensured that the experts were available, trained and ready when the telephone system needed the manpower, the spokesman added.

Saudi Telephone has concentrated the most manpower in the daytime shift, when the number of job requirements is at its peak, the company announced. Seventeen computer experts are on duty during the day, with eight managers on each of the other two shifts.

The continuous operation of the data center's computers greatly increases their efficiency, and allows the company to monitor constantly the status of the telephone network. An upcoming addition to the data center will soon double the capacity of the computers. Saudi Telephone's spokesman said.

# Saudi-American Bank shows profit of SR109m

By Alan Kenney

JEDDAH, Oct. 12 — The Saudi-American Bank earned SR109 million in 1980, according to the bank's first annual report. The report covered a period from the date of the bank's inception in July, 1980, up to the end of the first financial year on Dec. 31, 1980.

According to the report, loans increased 69 percent from SR2.5 billion to SR4.3 billion and customer deposits increased 57 percent from SR2.8 billion to SR4.4 billion. During 1980 the bank established two new branch outlets — one in Al Khobar and one in Riyadh. Between Dec. 31, 1980, and June 30, 1981, an additional three branches were opened in Jeddah and two more in Riyadh — bringing the total to nine, the bank report added.

Formed in 1980, the bank took over the interests of Citibank, N.A., which had conducted business in the Kingdom since 1955. Saudi-American Bank is a Saudi Arabian joint stock company, created as a result of Royal Decree number M/3, dated Feb. 13, 1980. The bank's management is provided by Citibank, N.A., itself one of the world's largest financial institutions with assets of \$115 billion (about SR390 billion).

Saudi American Bank is capitalized at SR300 million. The company's assets as of Dec. 31, 1980, were SR7 billion. During March and April, 1980, a total of 1,335,000 shares in the bank were offered to the Saudi public. The shares represented 44.5 percent of the total share capital of the bank. Another 465,000 shares, representing 15.5 percent,

have been subscribed by a group of 60 founders, all of whom are Saudi citizens. The remaining 1,200,000 shares are held by Citibank, N.A., representing 40 percent of the total.

According to the first annual report, the 1980 share offer was oversubscribed by more than 10 times; and the present number of 166,000 shareholders far exceeds that of any other bank in Saudi Arabia.

Total bank staff increased from 602 on July 12, 1980, to 759 as of Dec. 31, 1980. Positions held by Saudi nationals increased from 115 to 151 in the same period, the report indicated. With the cooperation of Citibank, N.A. and four global training centers in New York, Athens, London and Manila, Saudi-American Bank was able to train 261 people in 1980. The figure for 1981 will be more than 320, the bank 32 report said.

The investment in these programs including that in Saudi-American Bank's training center in Riyadh, will be SR9,500,000, an increase of 16 percent over 1980. The bank's management expects to hire more than 300 Saudi nationals over the next four and a half years in order to staff the expansion program, the report said.

The bank reported significant progress in meeting the goal of providing superior customer service through automation. In example, the report said that within a reasonable time frame, certain corporate customers will be able to transfer funds, generate account statements, transmit messages and perform other transactions through computer terminals located in their offices.

# National day cables sent

JEDDAH, Oct. 12 (SPA) — King Khaled congratulated King Juan Carlos of Spain Monday on the occasion of his country's national day anniversary. He wished the Spanish monarch good health and happiness and further progress and prosperity for the Spanish people.

The King also sent a congratulatory message to the president of Equatorial Guinea on the occasion of the country's national day anniversary. He expressed his good wishes for the Guinean leader and people.

# Saleh receives king's message

SANAA, Oct. 12 (SPA) — North Yemeni President Col. Abdullah Ali Saleh has received a message from King Khaled. Education Minister, Dr. Abdul Aziz Al-Khuweiter Sunday night conveyed the King's message to Saleh. The meeting was attended by Yemen's Culture Minister and the Kingdom's ambassador to North Yemen, Sheikh Tarrad Al-Harithy. Sanaa radio Monday reported that Col. Saleh had delivered written message to Dr. Khuweiter, for handing over to King Khaled. The education minister arrived here Sunday morning.

# Saudi Arabian stamps go on auction

LONDON, Oct. 12 — The increasingly popular stamps of Saudi Arabia are being featured in a two-day "Specialized Middle East" stamp auction being held on October 22-23 by Stanley Gibbons in their Drury House, the company reported in a press statement.

The comprehensive Saudi Arabia section not only includes single stamps, but examples in multiple blocks and stamps on their original envelope from Hejaz and Nejd. There are also the "forerunners" to Saudi Arabia stamps — those of Egypt and Turkey overprinted for

use in Saudi Arabia together with the stamps used during the French Occupation of Hejaz.

The most expensive lot in the auction is a collection from 1916 to the present day containing both rare and sought after items and more common stamps, which are valued at £600. A small set of Hejaz 1/4 pi to 1 pi stamps, all in blocks of four, is valued at £200 while a complete sheet of 36 1/2 pi stamps from Nejd of 1925 which have the overprint, used to denote a new higher value of 1/2 pi, inverted in error, is expected to fetch £175.

# Arab-Americans to hold seminar

By a Staff Writer

NEW YORK CITY, Oct. 12 — The American-Arab Association for Commerce & Industry, Inc. will hold its second annual one-day seminar on Saudi Arabia and the Arab Gulf on November 5, 1981.

The seminar, *Saudi Arabia and the Arab Gulf*, will cover aspects of doing business in

this region, and is recommended for senior executives. Topics to be discussed include project financing, taxation in Saudi Arabia, U.S. anti-boycott laws, the role of the private sector in Saudi development, U.S.-Gulf business relations, the Middle East as a source of capital, social attitudes in Saudi Arabia, and a legal update on Saudi Arabia and the Gulf.

# FROM THE GULF

AL AIN, Oct. 12 (WAM) — United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan Monday received a written message from Libyan President Col. Muammar Al-Qaddafi, dealing with bilateral relations and the current Arab situation.

The message was delivered by Mahmoud Maria, head of the Libyan Bureau (embassy) in the UAE at a meeting here Monday with President Sheikh Zayed.

The audience was attended by Sheikh Tahoun bin Muhammad, Abu Dhabi ruler's representative in the Eastern Region and chairman of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

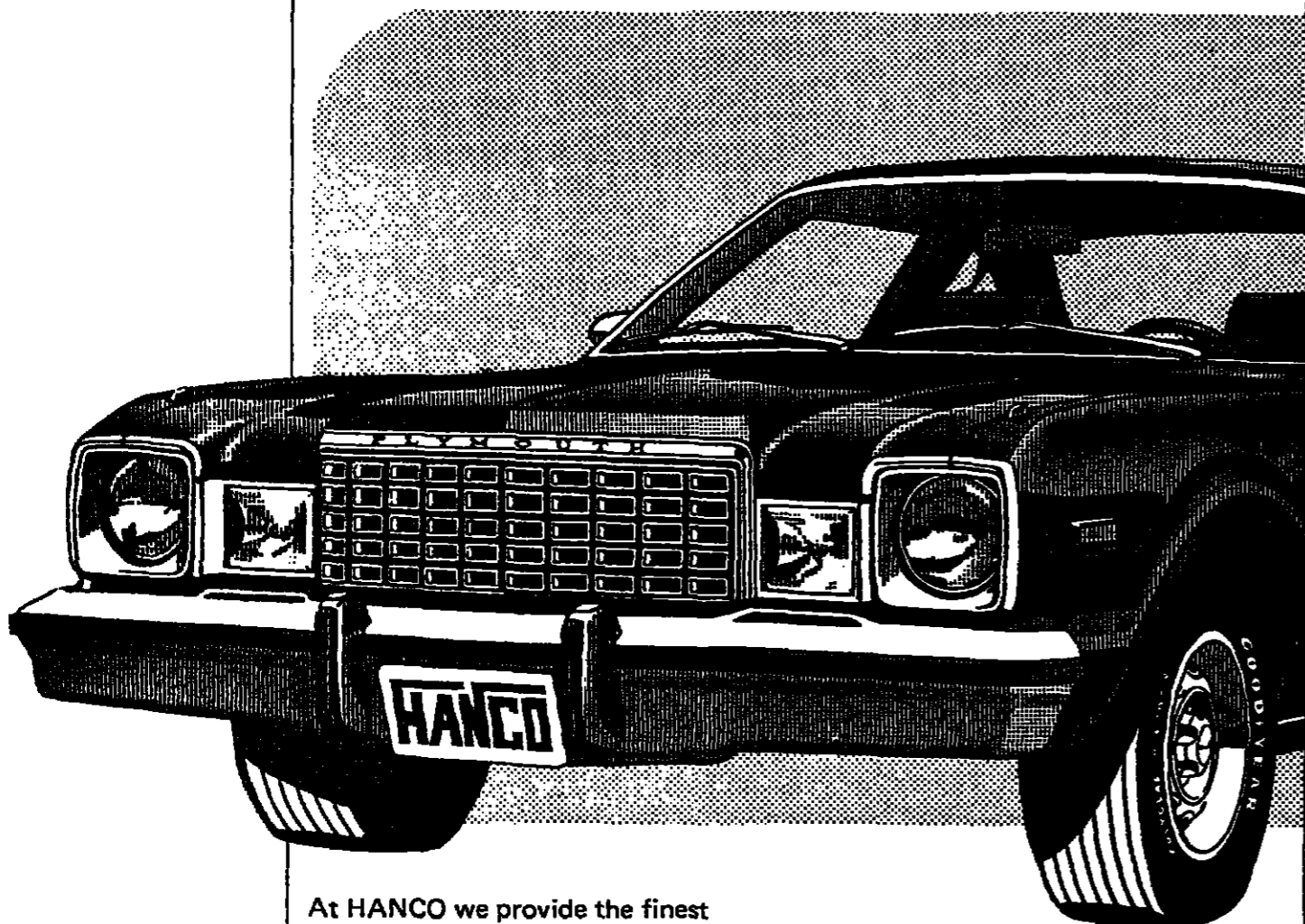
ABU DHABI, Oct. 12 (WAM) — United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan Monday received cables of thanks from President Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea and President Joao Bernardo Vieira of Guinea Bissau in reply to the congratulatory messages on the occasion of their national days.

DUBAI, Oct. 12 — Computer users throughout the Middle East are to have the chance to learn of the latest technology available internationally at a major conference to be held in Dubai. Called the Gulf Computer Conference, it will feature presentations that concentrate on computer applications of particular relevance to the Middle East.

# Prayer Times

	Makkah	Medina	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Tuesday						
Fajr (Dawn)	4:51	4:53	4:25	4:13	4:37	5:08
Dhuhr (Noon)	12:07	12:08	11:39	11:26	11:50	12:20
Assr (Afternoon)	3:28	3:28	2:59	2:45	3:10	3:38
Maghreb (Sunset)	5:59	5:58	5:29	5:15	5:39	6:08
Isba (Night)	7:29	7:28	6:69	6:45	7:09	7:38

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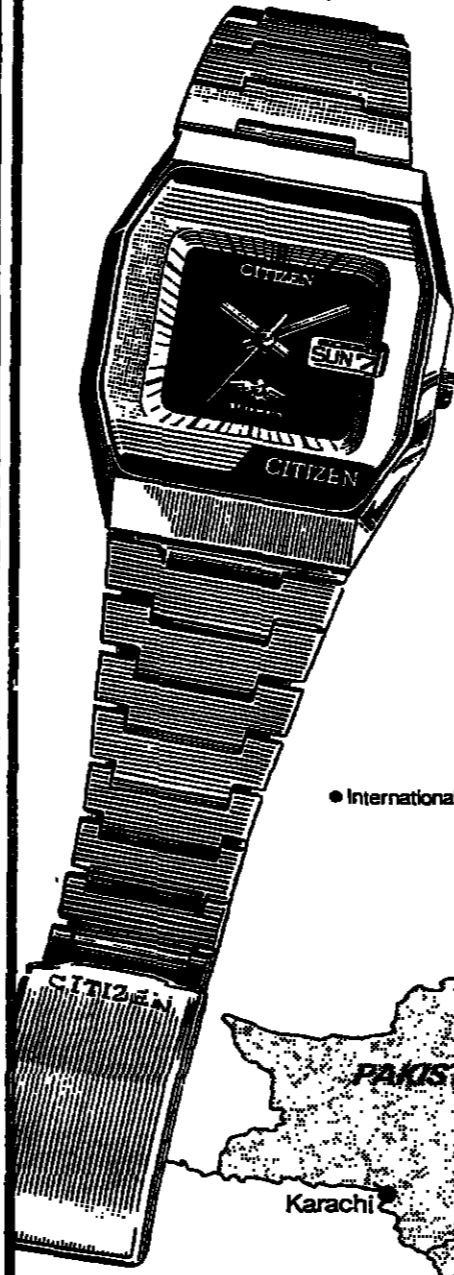
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## After attack of residence Security tightened for Egypt's minister

CAIRO, Oct. 12 (Agencies) — Marksman set up a crossfire zone as part of increased security Monday in front of the home of Egypt's interior minister where sources said gunmen launched an armed attack over the weekend.

The riflemen huddled on either side of Nabawy Ismail's house in the Cairo suburb of Mohandessin, just across the Nile River from the Egyptian capital.

There was one sharpshooter and an observer in each truck, parked 50 meters on either side of the house. Also, guards in civilian clothes manned a machine gun post mounted on the second level of an unfinished building immediately next to the minister's house, where sources said an undetermined number of sentries died late Saturday or early Sunday when gunmen opened fire from speeding cars.

Ismail Sunday denied his home was attacked, calling the story a "lie" and advising reporters not to believe rumors.

Meanwhile, the opposition Socialist Labor Party came out Sunday night in support of Gen. Hosni Mubarak's candidacy for president of Egypt.

"Egyptians should stand together in this difficult and sad time," the party said in a statement reported by Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA). The Socialist Labor Party has 12 of the 382 seats in the People's Assembly.

Meanwhile, the weekly *Mayo* published by Mubarak's ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) reported that after he is confirmed as president in the referendum vote Tuesday, he does not plan to appoint a new vice-president for the time being. *Mayo* said party leaders tended to favor having Mubarak give up his temporary additional post of premier and

name a new premier. But the appointment on a premier could be delayed "if circumstances required." The new president would keep the present cabinet in office, *Mayo* said.

*Mayo* also said the leader of the commandos who killed Sadat was already under suspicion of Egypt's political police. It said Lieut. Khaled Islambouly's "religious penchant" caused military security agents to put him under surveillance but they never proved anything against him. He seemed to be an "excellent" officer, "honest and punctual," it said.

*Mayo* confirmed that one of his brothers was among the 1,536 persons arrested last month in Sadat's drive against the opposition. But the lieutenant was not serving in the army under his true surname of Islambouly, so investigators did not realize he was a brother of the jailed man. The wounded lieutenant was still unconscious and has therefore not yet been interrogated, *Mayo* said.

*Mayo* revealed that Sadat exclaimed "it is not possible" just before he was hit by assassin bullets. Hosni Mubarak, in an interview with *Mayo*, said the attack lasted only "one or two seconds and was completely unforeseeable." He said it was a somewhat amateurish operation. Two grenades failed to explode because the killers forgot to pull the pins, he disclosed.

"Nobody could have prevented such an event," Mubarak said in answer to questions about possible negligence by bodyguards. He said the president had always refused to have guards "cut him off from people." For that reason, American security experts had given up all hope of guaranteeing his protection during his visits to Presidents Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter.

## Foreign hand in murder ruled out

CAIRO, Oct. 12 (AP) — The Egyptian Defense Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala told *Mayo* weekly that the four conspirators who assassinated President Anwar Sadat committed the crime of their own free will and had no help from abroad.

Ghazala gave *Mayo* previously undisclosed details of how the conspiracy was allegedly carried out, following interrogation of the two surviving civilians.

Ghazala said the conspirators had long been looking for an opportunity to kill Sadat. When they learned that El-Islambouly was to lead the gun crew at the annual victory day parade Oct. 6, they decided their moment had come. The four men went to Doshna, 325 miles south of Cairo, where they bought 100 rounds of ammunition and four hand grenades from "fugitives and criminals."

On the eve of the parade, the participating army units were assembled at suburban Nasr City "under intensive guard." But El-Islambouly had given three enlisted men in his battery a leave of absence, Ghazala said, to be able to replace them with his three accomplices.

The three arrived late Oct. 5, telling

guards they had been ordered to report to El-Islambouly for duty. El-Islambouly came to meet them and enacted a dramatic scene, abusing and reprimanding them for their late arrival," Ghazala said. "He then ordered them to spend the night separated from the other men in the battery" presumably to safeguard against arousing suspicion.

"In the morning, he went through the motions of carrying out a search for concealed ammunition," Ghazala said.

When the truck drew level with Sadat in the parade, the driver, who was not involved in the plot, refused to stop, Ghazala said. So El-Islambouly, sitting next to him, pulled the hand brake and leaped out with the other conspirators, running directly to the reviewing stand, one on the right, one on the left and two in the center.

Ghazala said he saw the first grenade fly over his head and explode behind him, while the second fell by Sadat and also exploded. The two other grenades did not explode. "I saw (El-Islambouly) aiming a shot directly at Sadat and those behind him," Ghazala said. "There was not a single security guard in front of the grandstand."

## Iran rejects Saddam's peace offer

BEIRUT, Oct. 12 (AP) — The Iranian joint chiefs of staff Sunday rejected Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's call for unconditional peace and said that they would fight the Iraqi forces "until our last breath," Tehran radio reported.

The radio, broadcasting a statement issued by the military, said the call for peace made by the Iraqi president was "devilish" and said such tactics "are used to fool the masses." The Iranian military rejected the call for peace because it said the Iraqis had made such a call while they rocketed the western Iranian town of Ilam Saturday, killing five, and wounding over 80. It also said that the towns of Dezful and Ahvaz in the oil-producing province of Khuzestan had been hit by Iraqi long-range artillery causing some damage.

Baghdad radio meanwhile said the Iraqis had killed 59 Iranian troops on the fronts in

the past 24 hours. Iran's government-owned Pars news agency Sa Saturday quoted Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar Rafsanjani as saying that he saw nothing new in the fresh proposals of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) which has restarted its efforts to end the year-long war between Iran and Iraq.

Rafsanjani said the new proposals were the same as the old ones, worded differently. "If Saddam (Iraqi President Saddam Hussein) agrees with this proposal, he should withdraw" from Iranian territory Iraq occupied in the first stages of the war. "They are continuing the war, and we do not want war. We are only defending," Pars quoted Rafsanjani as saying.

Habib Chatti secretary general of the 42-nation OIC made new moves to end the war in a meeting he held at the United Nations with Iranian Foreign Minister Hussein Mousavi, last week. Chatti was quoted by Tehran radio as saying that a peace plan had been proposed to the Iranian government and if it were accepted, the Islamic mediation team would immediately be asked to convene anew in Saudi Arabia to work out the final peace process.

Chatti was quoted by the Tehran radio correspondent in New York as saying that the new plan calls for a ceasefire simultaneously with Iraqi withdrawal from Iran and the stationing of an Islamic peacekeeping force to separate the troops pending the delineation of the disputed border zone between the two countries.

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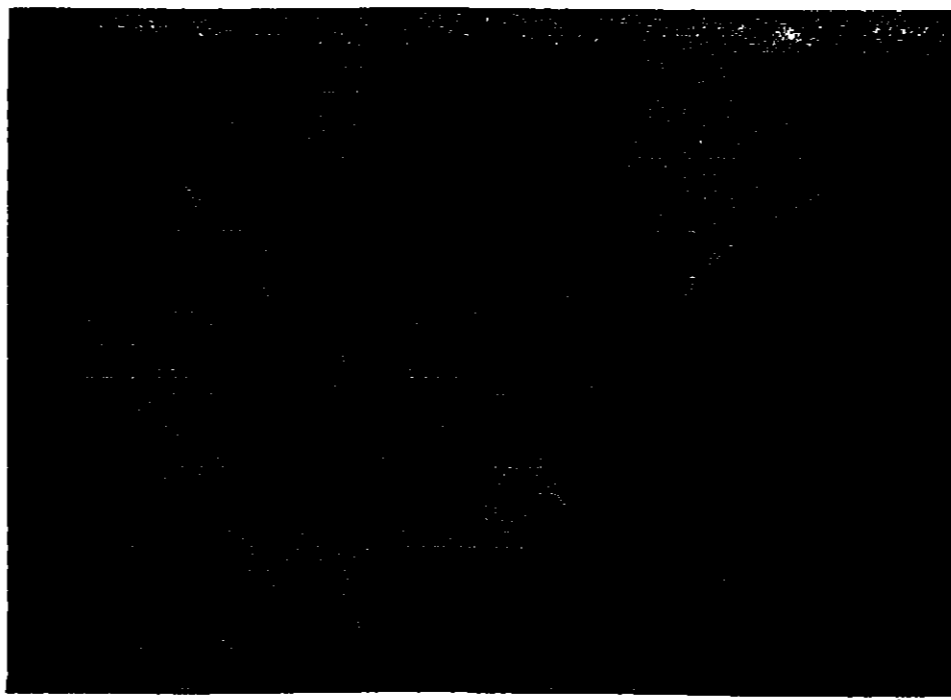
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**BIDS FAREWELL:** U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig bids farewell to Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs Kamal Hassan Ali Sunday after attending the funeral of assassinated President Anwar Sadat and holding talks with Egyptian leaders in Cairo.

## North Korea confers title on Arafat

TOKYO, Oct. 12 (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat received the title of Hero — North Korea's highest decoration — in a ceremony in Pyongyang Sunday, the official (North) Korean Central News Agency (KCNS) reported Monday.

President Kim Il-Sung personally awarded the title and the accompanying Gold Star Medal and the Order of the National Flag First Class to Arafat in recognition of his "armed struggle for many years against U.S. imperialism and Zionism to win the freedom, liberation and independence of the Palestinian people," it said.

The decoration also was for Arafat's active

support for the "just struggle of the (North) Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country" and his efforts in promoting friendly relations and cooperation between the Korean and Palestinian peoples, it said. Arafat arrived in Pyongyang from Peking Saturday for a three-day visit. The PLO leader also is to visit Japan, Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

Earlier Sunday, KCNA said, Arafat laid a wreath at the monument of the fallen fighters of the North Korean Army, and attended a music and dance performance given by the song and dance ensemble of the army. At the end of the performance, Arafat and President Kim mounted the stage and presented a basket of flowers to the artists, it added.

## As bomb blast injures three 2 die in Iran shootout

TEHRAN, Oct. 12 (Agencies) — Two persons were killed and a third was seriously injured in a short violent shootout in central Tehran early Monday, eyewitnesses said.

The victims were believed to have been Mujahedeen opponents of the government.

Meanwhile a bomb exploded in a central Tehran street Monday injuring bystanders, eyewitnesses said. They added the explosion shattered windows of nearby buildings in Karim Khan-e-Zand Avenue, sealed off by revolutionary guards after the blast. The bomb had been placed in a bag in front of a shop, they said.

In Paris, Massoud Rajavi, the exiled leader of the Mujahedeen, said Sunday 80 of his supporters in Iran have been executed in the past 24 hours. Tehran radio reported Sunday that 82 leftist opponents had been executed by the Iranian government. A communique issued by Rajavi from his headquarters outside Paris also said Dr. Muhammad Maleki, the first post-revolutionary head of Tehran University, and Shokrollah Paknejad, a well-known militant, had been arrested and were being tortured in a Tehran prison.

The communique added, "last week nearly 100 students who had been injured in recent street demonstrations were taken from their hospital beds to Evin Prison (in Tehran) where they were then executed. Their bodies,

unlike previous cases, were not this time taken to the coroner's office and are now buried in what is known as the infidel's graveyard."

Rajavi fled Iran along with ousted Iranian President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr. The two men arrived in Paris together July 29 and were granted political asylum by the French government.

The state radio in the meantime in its evening broadcast said a doctor was shot dead by the Mujahedeen Khalq in the central Iranian city of Shiraz Sunday. The radio described Dr. Ibrahim Faghihi as a "religious and dedicated man." The radio said Faghihi was shot by assassins on a motorcycle but gave no further details.

The *Islamic Republic* reported Monday 12 persons have been executed on charges of being "counter-revolutionaries" or "elements dependent on foreign powers" in Kermanshah and Esfahanabad Ghard, in the western province of Kermanshahan.

The 12 were sentenced to death by Islamic revolutionary courts for "rebellion against the regime," stockpiling of weapons, "creating panic, leaving explosives in public places and attacks against Muslims," the newspaper said. A woman was among the 12 according to the newspaper, which did not give the dates of the executions.

## BRIEFS

**KHARTOUM, (AFP)** — A high-level American delegation arrived here Sunday for talks on Sudan's defense needs. The delegation, led by State Department Counselor Robert McFarlane, includes senior Defense Department officials.

**KOMOTINI, (AFP)** — Three Turks and an Iranian Monday swam across the Euxos (Bosporus) River separating the European part of Turkey and Greece and asked for political

asylum in his country. No further details are immediately available from the police.

**ALGIERS, (AFP)** — Britain will build 20,000 dwellings in Algeria under an agreement between the two governments, announced here Monday. Companies in the United Kingdom are expected to begin detailed negotiations with Algerian state organizations next week.

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# Salvador puts army on alert

## Rejects parley with opposition

SAN SALVADOR, Oct. 12 (AFP) — Salvadoran security forces were on alert and many people canceled weekend activities because of an expected guerrilla offensive, according to sources here. The measures followed an announcement Friday by army headquarters that guerrilla operations were on the increase after the government's refusal to meet for talks with opposition.

The military junta led by President Jose Napoleon Duarte insists that the leftists must lay down arms before any negotiations are undertaken. Such a move would be political and physical "suicide", according to leaders on the Revolutionary Democratic Front (RDF) and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMNL).

The two opposition groups favor a dialogue leading to a negotiated global political settlement to the conflict with the participation of all representative forces.

Meanwhile, the general staff of the Salvadoran armed forces has taken a stand in favor of joint action with neighboring Guatemala and Honduras to fight what it has termed "armed intervention by the Sandinistas" of Nicaragua, sources said Sunday.

The idea of a joint action by the three anti-Communist regimes against the left-wing fourth was floated ahead of Monday's visit to San Salvador of Guatemalan President Rometucos Garcia, accompanied by his minister of defense, Gen. Luis Rene Mendozza Palomo. Relations with Nicaragua are at a low point now to judge from the Salvadoran press, which is calling for a break in diplomatic relations.

The call follows the rejection here of a Nicaraguan proposal, presented by the Sandinista commander before the United Nations, for negotiations with the El Salvador government. President Napoleon Duarte Saturday called the Nicaraguan leaders "puppets of the Soviet Union." Another official described the Nicaraguans as "super-interventionists."

Political violence has caused the death of more than 22,000 civilians in this country over the past four years.

# American helium balloon completes historic float

SAVANNAH, Georgia, Oct. 12 (AP) — The helium balloon *Super Chicken III* landed on an island off the Georgia coast Sunday, becoming the first such craft to float from one end of the United States to the other.

"The balloon landed on Blackbird island and both passengers and the balloon are in good condition," said Robert Nevins with the Federal Aviation Administration in Jacksonville, "there were no problems, no one was injured and there was no damage to the balloon."

The two pilots had attempted to land the 10-story-tall balloon on a beach 38kms south of Savannah, but had to ascend to find a more suitable spot because of stiff ocean breezes, Nevins said. The pilots were in the air 55 hours, 25 minutes and they traveled 4,047-kms.

Before daylight Sunday, pilot John Shoecraft and co-pilot Fred Gorrell slowed down fearing a landing in darkness would crash the craft on power lines or buildings, said Chris Van Elk, a spokesman at the flight operations center in Scottsdale, Arizona.

The balloon was cruising 60 miles per hour at 27,000 feet when it began descending, reaching 18,000 and a speed of between 35 and 45 mph, Van Elk said.

Shoecraft failed at two previous attempts to guide the first helium balloon ever to fly non-stop coast to coast across the United States. A team in 1980 flew a helium balloon from the west coast to the east coast, but drifted to a landing in Canada.



HISTORIC FLIGHT: Fred Gorrell (left) and pilot John Shoecraft tie down *Super Chicken III's* gondola after their historic transcontinental balloon flight ended on Blackbird Island Sunday.

# Cuba to start anti-smoking drive soon

HAVANA, Oct. 12 (R) — Cuba's cigar-smoking president, Fidel Castro, announced that his government would soon start an anti-smoking campaign. Chattering informally to reporters Sunday after voting in municipal elections, Castro said ruefully that he could not give up the habit himself. "My contribution will be not to smoke in public," he said with a smile.

Castro acknowledged that his image as a lover of fine Havana cigars had helped to publicize Cuba's vital tobacco industry, a source of valuable foreign currency.

But he said, the forthcoming campaign was part of his government's widely praised health policies. Castro did not say when it would begin, but Sunday, at least, no cigar was seen sprouting from the pockets of his familiar olive-green military fatigues.

The municipal elections were held for the third time since the 1959 revolution in Cuba. The voters were choosing members of 169 municipal assemblies, the only bodies directed elected in Cuba.

# Stealth bomber 'gets new design'

NEW YORK, Oct. 12 (R) — The Stealth bomber, capable of evading Soviet radar, will be built as a low-altitude penetrator instead of a high-altitude bomber, *Newsweek* magazine reports.

Some basic design decisions were still to be made, but there has been "an important change in specifications: instead of being a high-altitude bomber, as originally planned, it will be a low-altitude penetrator," the magazine says in its latest issue.

*Newsweek* does not give a reason for the reported change in design of the Stealth, which is expected to form eventually the air-based leg of the U.S. strategic "triad" defense system. The Reagan administration proposes to continue providing funds for both the B-1 bomber, expected to be ready in 1986, and the Stealth, which should be ready in the 1990s. Some congressmen have argued that the B-1 money should be diverted for work on the more advanced Stealth.

## To face publishers

### U.S. writers forming union

NEW YORK, Oct. 12 (R) — Delegates to the first congress of writers to be held in the United States since 1941 voted Sunday night to form a union for American writers. The three-day congress, which organizers said was attended by 3,000 persons, also passed a series of liberal resolutions, including one calling for action to defend the rights to speak and write with freedom.

Delegates said the general mood of the congress was one of gloom at the growing conservative mood in the United States and the increasing vulnerability of the writer to both economic and political pressures.

Among other factors, they cited conglomerate control of the publishing industry and the Christian fundamentalist Moral Majority

Organization which has forced the removal of some books from libraries. Independent U.S. publishing houses and newspapers have been increasingly bought by large corporations with other interests as diverse as food, cable television or defense contracting.

"What we need is a good, old-fashioned trade union to face the publishing conglomerates," said one delegate. Keynote speaker Toni Morrison, author and editor at Random House Publishers, was applauded loudly, when she called for cooperation among writers.

"We don't need any more writers as solitary heroes. We need a heroic writers' movement — assertive, militant, pugnacious," she said.

## From sunken ship

### Britons to recover remaining gold

MOSCOW, Oct. 12 (AFP) — British divers will resume operations in the sea of Murmansk next spring to recover the remainder of the bullion from the sunken Royal Navy cruiser *Edinburgh*, *Pravda* reported Monday.

When the British salvage firm of Jesop Marine Recoveries suspended work last week at the onset of autumn storms, 456 ingots had already been brought to the surface, the Soviet Communist Party daily said. Work to recover some 30 ingots still in the wreck will start again next spring when the weather improves.

In the autumn of 1942 the British cruiser was carrying five tons of bullion when it was intercepted by a German U-boat shortly after leaving the Soviet Arctic port of Murmansk.

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# Indian crackdown on Sikhs continues

NEW DELHI, Oct. 12 (AP) — Several more Sikh militants have been arrested in a continuing crackdown on secessionist groups which backed the recent hijacking of an Indian airliner to Pakistan, authorities reported. The arrests took place at several towns in the northern state of Punjab, where most of India's 13 million Sikhs live.

The Sikh militants were arrested under a preventive detention law that allows imprisonment without trial for a year, or on sedition charges. Authorities had announced 100 arrests across northern India following the Sept. 29 hijacking of an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 jet by five Sikhs. The pirates had demanded half a million dollars as ransom and the release of Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, a Sikh leader arrested last month on murder charges.

Pakistani commandos disguised as airline sweepers captured the skyjacker at Lahore Airport.

The arrests on Sunday followed continuing sabotage of railroads, bridges and telecommunications and firebomb attacks on district government offices and officials in Punjab allegedly by Sikh secessionists.

Meanwhile, two Sikh organizations announced Sunday they would "fight tooth and nail" any attempt by the government to prohibit the Sikhs from carrying their kirpans, or small iron-handled knives, aboard domestic flights.

Sikh men, who sport turbans over unshorn hair, beards and steel bracelets, have been permitted to wear "kirpans" on grounds that this was part of their religion. The "kirpans" were used by the five air pirates to divert the plane to Lahore.

The Sikh Temple Management Committee and All-India Sikh Student Federation said in press statements that a government ban on the carrying of "kirpans" would be a "direct interference" in their religion and it would not be "tolerated."

## BRIEFS

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand (R) — Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh started an eight-day tour of New Zealand Monday following their two-week visit to Australia.

BANGKOK, (AFP) — Princess Chulabhorn, of the Thai royal family, is to be engaged to a commoner Thursday, the royal household announced Monday. A statement said King Bhumibol Adulyadet had given the princess, 23, special dispensation to retain her royal title. Her husband-to-be is flying officer Virayuth Disayasin, 26. The eldest of the four royal children, Ubol Ratana, 30, lost her title after marrying a Californian businessman in 1972.

NEW DELHI, (AP) — A wedding reception here ended in tragedy Sunday when a blazing canvas tent fell on the crowd, killing two women and seriously burning 55 persons, mostly children, police reported. Four guests were listed in critical condition in a New Delhi hospital.

BÓLOGNA, Northern Italy, (AFP) — Six persons, including two children, were killed Monday when an explosion rocked a building in Montecchio Nelf Emilia, about 80 kms west of here, local firefighters reported. Two others were slightly injured by the blast, which was tentatively attributed to a gas leak, the sources said.

SANTO DOMINGO, (AFP) — U.S. Vice President George Bush arrived here Sunday for a two-day official visit amid heavy security precautions. He was met at the airport by the vice president of the Dominican Republic, Jacobo Majluta, and several other government leaders.

STANFORD, California, (AFP) — A 40-year-old Californian was in a critical condition Monday after undergoing a double heart and lung transplant operation at Stanford University's medical school here, doctors said. The patient, Barry Eavis, was born with a hole in his heart that also necessitated replacing both his lungs.



JAPANESE PROTEST: Labor unionists and farmers raise their fists at a demonstration against the new Tokyo International Airport at Narita Sunday, vowing to destroy the three-year-old air terminal. Nearly 10,000 Japanese participated in the protest organized by the Sanrizuka-Shibayama Anti-Airport Alliance, opposed to the expropriation of farm land for the site.

### To eliminate injections

## Insulin pump implanted in diabetic

MUNICH, Oct. 12 (AFP) — A tiny insulin pump, implanted beneath the skin and controlled by a mini-computer, promises to free diabetics from their daily life-maintaining insulin injections. The first recipient of the new device was a 52-year-old nun.

Dr. Helmut Mehnert performed the operation in the Munich-Schwabing Municipal Hospital on Aug. 5, implanting the pump beneath the right clavicle and hooking it into a vein. The patient left the hospital 10 days later, soon returned to her teaching job and has been living a normal, active life due to the pump's action in correcting the excessive blood sugar which characterizes diabetes, a metabolic disorder.

The pump is the size of a pack of cigarettes and weighs six ounces (170 grams) when filled. It is implanted under local anesthetic in an operation comparable to the implantation of a cardiac pacemaker, said Dr. Mehnert, chief of the hospital's diabetes research group.

The pump is hooked into a vein via a tiny tube and the insulin flows constantly, providing an almost-perfect duplication of the natural action of the pancreas. The tube is just wide enough to allow the insulin through, but too narrow for blood to back up and foul

the pump. The flow of insulin is regulated from outside the body, and can be varied according to the time of day, increasing after meals, for example.

The Munich pump is not the first. Such devices have been implanted in patients' abdominal cavities in hospitals in Austria, France and the United States. The sub-clavicle pump differs in that it injects insulin directly into the bloodstream. But even this is not unique. Direct-line insulin pumps had already been developed. But they functioned from outside the body, posing the problems of inconvenience and infection.

The Munich pump, the first to combine the features of implantation and direct injection, is considered a breakthrough. The pump's insulin reservoir is refilled by injection every three weeks, and the battery is replaced by minor surgery once a year.

## Kampala trial put off for day

KAMPALA, Oct. 12 (AFP) — The opening of the trial of Bob Astles, the British-born aide to former Ugandan President Idi Amin, for murder was postponed until Tuesday to allow his British barrister, Philip Wilkinson, to obtain authorization to practice in Uganda.

A technicality preventing the start of the trial Monday, scheduled, was raised in court by the principal state attorney, George Emesu, who said that Wilkinson's certificate permitting him to practice in Uganda had expired in 1976.

Emesu said that it would be an offense for the barrister to practice without renewing his professional certificate or before he obtained a special license.

Wilkinson practiced in Uganda for 40 years and is registered here as a lawyer.



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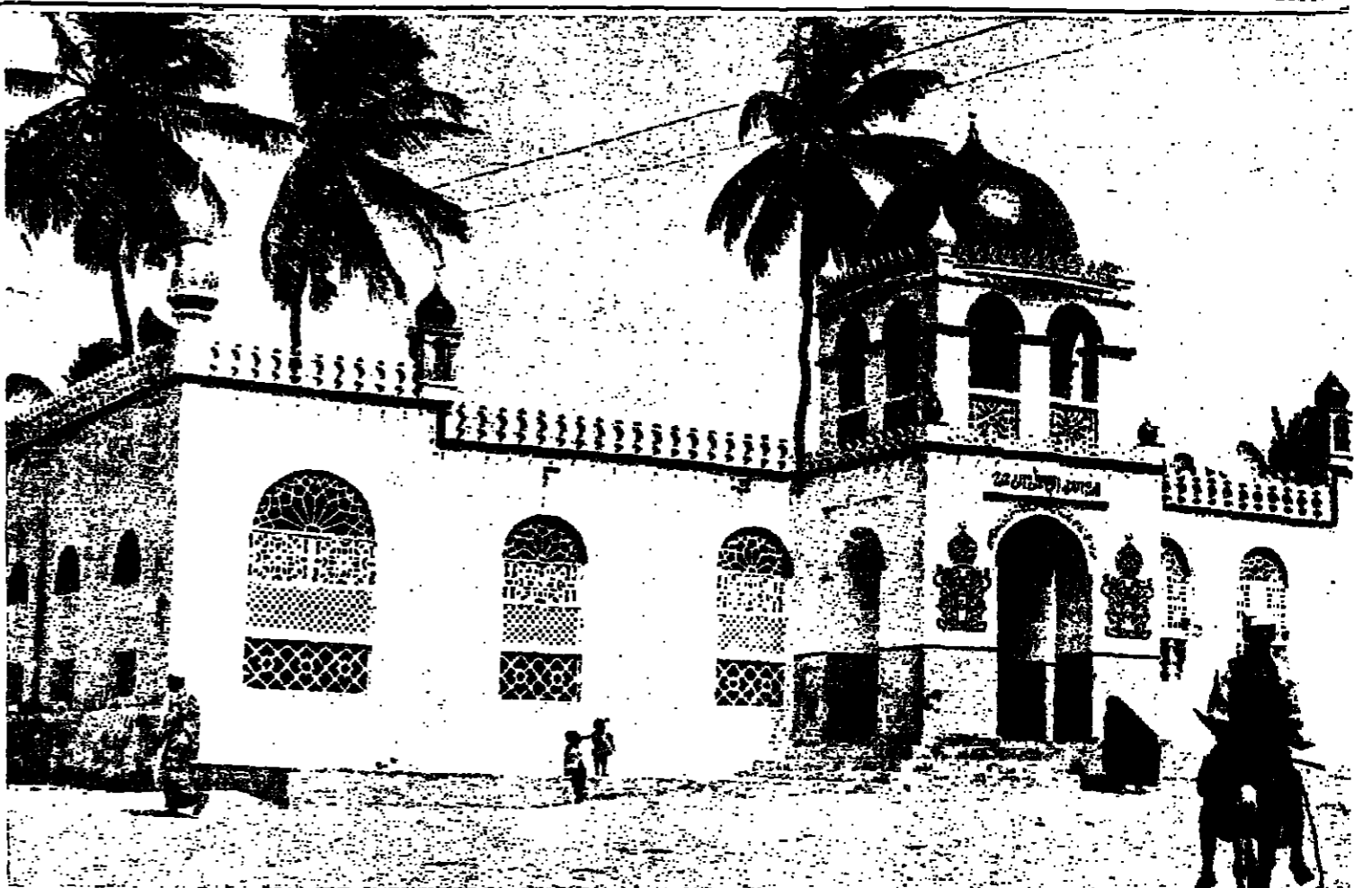
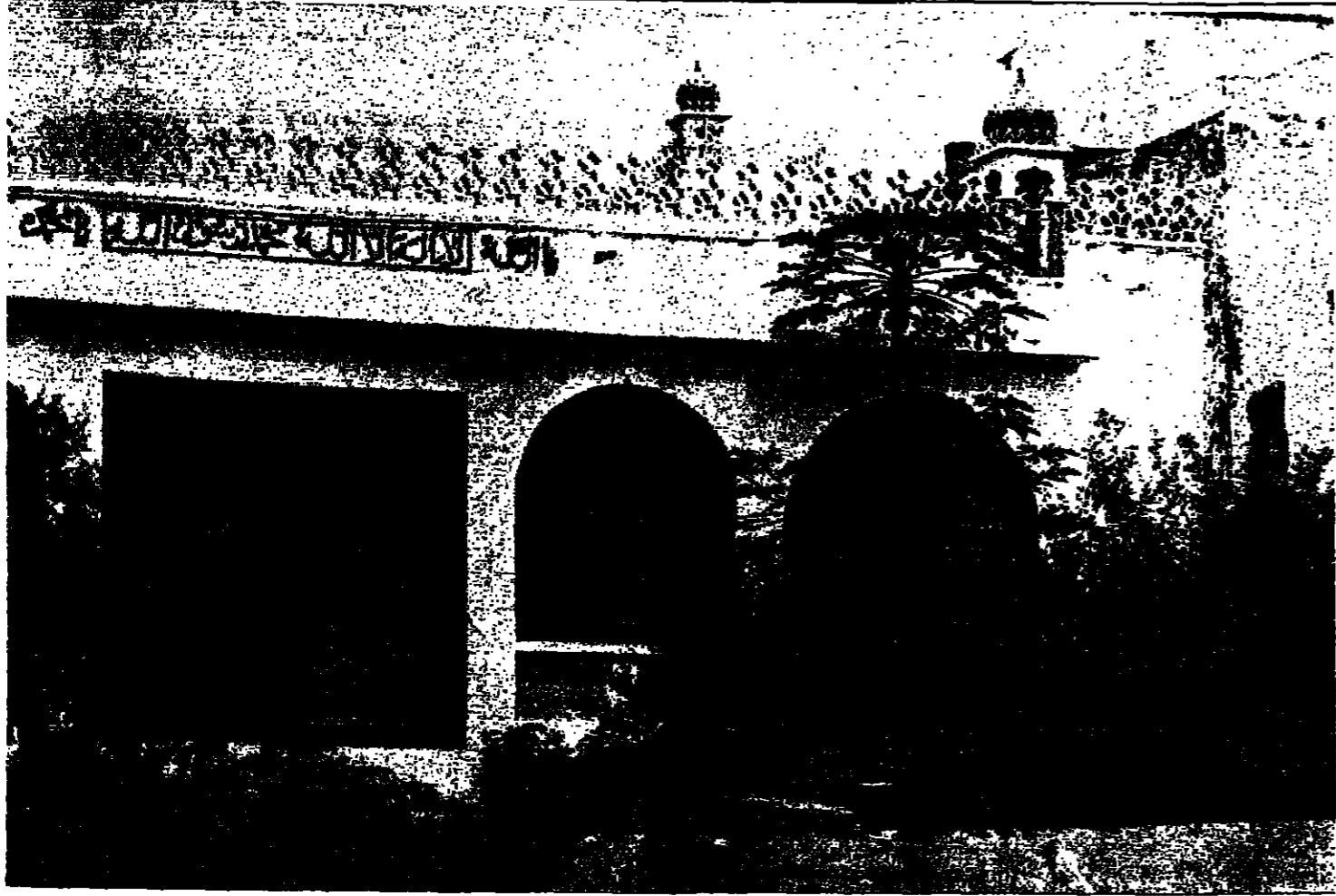
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LAMU MOSQUES: East African links with the Arab world date back more than two hundred decades. There are 23 mosques on the island of Lamu with the majority built between 1821 and 1860.

Africa's idyllic, palm fringed east coast

Arab, Islamic traditions prevail on the island of Lamu

By Kathy Lund

LAMU, Kenya — In Kenya there's an old Swahili proverb which advises: "If you are going to stay in a place, build." This is exactly what waves of Arab traders have done over the centuries along Africa's idyllic, palm fringed east coast. — Their decision to settle had a marked impact on the culture — in the spread of Islam, in the Swahili language itself and in towns which feature narrow winding balconied streets. But nowhere is the legacy of Arab influence so overwhelming as on the fascinating island of Lamu.

Situated just off the Kenyan coast, about 200 kilometers north of Mombasa, Lamu has resisted the rush and bustle of the 20th century to remain what has been described as "a living epitome of most coastal towns throughout the Arab heyday." Cars are banned and only donkeys and carts wend their way along narrow, maze-like streets; women glide anonymously by covered from head to toe in their black boubous, the local version of the abaya; and stopping to chat with neighbors and friends still takes precedence over the "nine to five" existence.

"In Lamu," says one of its fervent admirers, "you find a vibrant society in a love-marriage with its traditions." The story is told of an old Arab who, on finding out that the telephone line was being extended to the island some years back, commented that "never mind, the elephants on the mainland will soon knock down the poles." Not only does Lamu cling jealously to its traditions, it nurtures the Islamic religion with devotion. East African links with the Arab world date back some two hundred decades. By the 10th Century certainly the adventurous Arab traders who plied the rich routes to India and China had set up trading establishments along the coast. These is definite evidence on Lamu's neighboring island of Manda of settlement from the 9th Century and excavations have proved that the people living there "were wealthy and very much under the cultural influence of Persia."

The traders used the monsoon winds to take the treasures of Africa, such as ivory, to India and China; and, when the monsoons changed direction later, used them to bring back prized porcelains and celadins of China and the spices of India and its neighboring islands. Although the local Swahili "Lamu Chronicle" claims the town was founded by Arabs in the 7th Century, the discovery of old Islamic and Chinese porcelain on Manda suggests strongly that this was really the oldest site on the coast. An Arab geographer, Abu al-Mahasin, was the first to mention Lamu by name, in 1402.

The 13th Century saw waves of Muslim expansion down the East African coast. Mixed with the traders were refugees from Mongol incursions into the eastern side of the Islamic world. According to one Lamu historian, by the 14th Century the kings and merchants of the region were devout Muslims. So much so that they "impressed such well-travelled outsiders as Ibn Battuta with their strict adherence to Qu'ranic law." In more recent years, two noted African historians, Roland Oliver and John Fage, have written that, under the aura of Islamic civilization, Africa was better off than that it would have been under Western influence.

Arab construction methods were also introduced and stone buildings in the towns replaced the more simple mud dwellings. Coral rag and excellent mud plaster became the order of the day and proved rather more durable constructions than their predecessors.

The 15th Century brought with it the threat of the Portuguese, a menace that was to last for many decades. Ironically, the Portuguese had learned many of their navigational skills from the Arabs. In the wake of the Moorish incursions into the Iberian Peninsula they had followed their former conquerors back into North Africa where many had become bodyguards or mercenaries for the sultans, picking up in the process much of the knowledge the Arab world had gained of far off lands and how to get there.

As a local historian comments "They jealously guarded all the information they had gathered from Arabs and soon became convinced that Africa was surrounded by the ocean and that it would be feasible to sail around it and eventually reach India." Apparently Portugal's Prince Henry the Navigator spurred this Age of Discovery after sniffing the first sprig of rosemary, brought to him from Cape Bojador. Lured by

the rich promise of spices and gold Portuguese seafarers, capitalized on the invaluable lead given by the earlier Arab traders to launch a new era in world history.

The immediate future did not augur well for Lamu and the other coastal settlements. The Portuguese were intent on enforcing their sovereignty over the trading routes and the trading towns, and also extracted their due in taxes. Naturally the sultanates along the coast were keen to overthrow and oust the Portuguese, so when a Turkish emir called Mirale Bey called for a Jihad against the



NARROW STREETS: There is only one car in Lamu and all transportation is by donkey or on foot. The Arabian influence is evident both in the dress and the balconies.

intruders he quickly found support. Such action was not greeted kindly by the Portuguese who took retaliatory action against the insurrectionists, an action that led to the execution of the Lamu sheikh toward the end of the 16th century.

The Portuguese were to act once more against the rulers of Lamu almost a century later, but happily for Lamu it was more a sawsawing than a further victory. In 1678 the intruders again put a Lamu king to death but it was "not so much a retaliatory measure as the last desperate action of a conqueror who sees his gains irretrievably slipping from his grasp." By this time the Omani Arabs were gaining in influence along the African coast.

The ascendancy of Zanzibar also saw Lamu's star rising. The trade generated by the Omani merchants brought Lamu into its Golden Age. According to a Lamu history these Arab traders brought in capital and business acumen and launched Lamu into international trade on a scale hitherto

unknown on the north coast. Plantations were opened and crops such as dhool (a small pea), rice and millet were sown for later export to Arabia. In addition, the mainland was rich in elephants, whose ivory was much sought after in India, while cowrie shells, another prized trade item, were abundant on the reefs. During the moonsoon season dhows would crowd the Lamu harbor to take their fill of both commodities. So prosperous did the trade make Lamu that it became by the mid-19th Century, the most important town on the entire East African coast, after Mombasa.

Such prosperity resulted in a building boom in Lamu, not least in the construction of mosques. Of the town's 23 mosques, the majority were built between 1821 and 1860. The march of time and the vagaries of history — predominantly the ending of slavery and the European "scramble for Africa" — saw Lamu's star decline. But trade still remains its life force and the lifestyle built up over the centuries is greatly treasured.

Although Lamu's heyday was not reached until the 18th century, as a town on the trade routes it enjoyed almost throughout its history an exotic lifestyle enhanced by the riches and luxuries that the merchants brought in from the mystical East. A further bonus was the architectural style of their houses inherited from their Arab forebears which provided a splendid setting for the fine ornaments from far corners of the globe that graced their abodes. The interesting booklet *Queen For the Past, An Historical Guide to the Lamu Archipelago*, by Kenya scholars Chrysee MacCasler Perry Martin and her husband Esmond Bradley Martin, contains an interesting description of the lifestyle enjoyed by rich Lamuans around the 15th and 16th centuries.

"Inside their walls, the visitor would have first crossed a courtyard to a verandah shaded by a palm frond, "makuti", roof. The benches were built of stone and were simply projections of the building itself. Mats and possibly a few pillows were spread out. The master of the house might have been sitting here, one leg resting on top of the other, in graceful recline. Supposing he was a very rich merchant, his elegantly draped turban would be of silk and his dress and striped caftan with flowing sleeves, the material imported from Cambay in India. He did his entertaining here or in the reception rooms just inside, where the walls were hung with finely woven Persian carpets and sculptured niches held ornamental Chinese porcelain dishes and pottery lamps with wicks laid flat as in ancient Rome.

Luxury played as much a part in the lives of the women as the men. Gold bangles covered their arms up to the elbow; others jingled

from their ankles. Crystal, carnelian, agate, and glass beads were strung from almost everywhere...If the guest were staying for dinner his food was prepared in the kitchen in "sufurias", large earthenware pots. The serving dishes included decorated brass trays, blue and white porcelain plates of the Ming dynasty, depicting oriental landscapes, posey patterns and frolicking animals...

Food for the master and his guest was superb. Pilafs expertly seasoned with cloves, pepper, cinnamon, and ginger; entrees of roast mutton in rich, aromatic sauces; delicately sauteed chickens and shish kebabs cooked over mangrove charcoal; sweets such as banana cooked in coconut milk and fresh mangoes were familiar fare."

The lifestyle lingers on, and if a visitor to the island is very lucky, he may be invited to view some of the delightful old homes, themselves dating back over a century or more, and following the same lines as their forebearers establishments.

The high coral and limestone walls of the houses, which form the walls of the alleyways, give no hint of the elegance and comfort that lie within. On the ground floor a refreshingly cool reception area opened out onto a courtyard lush with plants and vines. In between, a small rectangular blue tiled pool with six niches set in round the sides so family members could splash their toes in the water on hot days. Upstairs lay the family living area — separate accommodation for the boys and girls — more courtyard space, comfortable Swahili furnishings and Persian rugs on the floor. On the roof, more outdoor relaxation areas and a palm frond covered area to provide shade.

Lamu's limited communications system and geographical position have thus far played an important part in helping the island to retain its traditions. Most tourists come in light aircraft, seating only six or seven passengers, which land on a rough bush airstrip on neighboring Manda Island. From there it's a five to ten minute ride across the channel in an open boat with a noisy engine. But the view of the township as the boat approaches is more than worth the trip. What meets the eye is a fascinating mixture of colonial and Arab architecture and African thatched roofs set amidst minarets and palm trees.

It's not quite true to say there are no cars on Lamu. There is in fact one. It is owned by the district commissioner who drives it from his home to the office. Other than that no cars are allowed — and as you wander through the town it's not difficult to see why the ban exists. Cars simply wouldn't fit. Thus all transport and carrying is provided by donkeys and large hand-drawn barrows. When one of the latter comes trundling along the alleyways it's advisable to move right to the side.

One of the highlights of a trip to Lamu is a visit to its excellent museum, opened in 1971, and housed in an old colonial mansion that was once the home of the district commissioner. The museum brings home with some impact just how discerning a lifestyle Lamuans enjoyed at the height of the trading days.

Treasures on display in the museum include carved canopy beds, giraffe bone and ivory inlaid armchairs; carved window and doorframes; intricate cooking utensils such as vermicelli makers and coconut graters; cop-



MANGROVE WOOD: This wood is stacked and awaiting shipment to numerous Arab countries.

per trays and brass water pots; silver cosmetic bottles and jars decorated with little bells and chains. The wealth of the former lifestyle is further highlighted by exhibitions of European and Chinese ceramics, Malabar writing boxes, Gulf chests, and Omani wedding belts.

Many of the items which Lamuans traded in return for these treasures in days gone by still provide the local inhabitants with their income. One of the biggest money makers is mangrove wood, some of the greatest markets for which are nearby Arab countries, including Saudi Arabia. It's an industry that's very obvious to the visitor. The whole foreshore and waterfront is stacked high with piles of timber lengths waiting for export. And right in the middle of town is being constructed the largest dhow ever especially to carry the mangrove wood to Arabian buyers. Other commodities produced by Lamu include charcoal (again from mangrove wood), coconuts and coconut products, sesame seed products and fish.

A further highly productive industry is wood carving, an art which is very much part of Lamu's Arab heritage. In another little workshop along the water front local youths sit patiently at their workbenches carving wooden facades in patterns that have been handed down for generations. Many of the facades are used for elaborate door frames — very popular in Lamu — and often they carry inscriptions from the Qu'ran. Carved wooden chests in the Arabian Gulf tradition are also made and prove a popular purchase for outsiders, including tourists, although transporting them to the mainland is not easy.

A love of poetry is another tradition the Lamuans have inherited from their Arab ancestors. However the poems are written, not in Arabic, but in Swahili, the mulatto language of East Africa. The verses often express the spirit of Islam. The Martins comment that "because education until recently was exclusively in the hands of the religious leaders, and because much of the poetry was originally intoned in the mosques, the standard of versification is very high indeed." Poetry is so much part of the traditional lifestyle that during general elections verses become part of the campaign to woo votes.

But the Arab world's greatest gift to Lamu was the religion of Islam, and this lifestyle forms the basis of what the islanders today are trying to preserve. With 23 mosques for a population of 8000 Lamu is well served with places for prayer. The most commanding of these is called the Riyadah, built in 1900, and the center of the "Maulidi" celebrations. The most respected of Lamu's religious teachers was one, Habib Salih, a Sharif with family connections in the Hadramaut, who made his home on the island in the 1880s. His sons continued his teachings after his death in 1935. Just across the square from the mosque a brand new Quranic school is being built for the schoolboys of the island to continue their studies of the Quran and the alphabet.

Lamu can be reached readily by light plane and boat from either Malindi or Mombasa. It is possible to take a day tour from Mombasa, taking in Lamu and another spot, called Robinson Island, a remote beach among the mangroves which boasts nothing more than a sandy-floored, thatch-roofed restaurant featuring some delicious seafood. Full day trips to Lamu are also available, but one has to wait until there are enough people wanting to go. The cost from Mombasa was around SR500, which included the Robinson Island feast.

Those wanting to spend longer on the island (and it is worth staying to savour the soothing effect of a place where time has stood still) will find adequate accommodation available. First there are eight 18th Century townhouses, restored on the initiative of the very active Lamu Society, and available for rent at around SR100 per night, which includes a servant. Then there is the Peponi Hotel, situated at the entrance to Lamu harbor in a village called Sheila. It was here, according to the hotel's blurb, "amongst the fabulous sand dunes... that Lamu's inhabitants inflicted a disastrous defeat upon an army dispatched from Mombasa and Pate, and opened the door to a direct revival of Omani influence from Muscat." From the hotel one steps straight onto a beach which overlooks Manda Island and stretches for over 12 kilometers with no other signs of habitation to disturb the view.

Petley's Inn is located right next door to the museum on the waterfront. It was established in 1948 by Percy Petley, a farmer from the Witu area on the mainland, famed for his fantastic hunting feats. The story most often told is of the time he dealt with a leopard bare-handed. In 1957 the proprietorship of the inn was taken over by a Colonel Pink, an even more colorful character, notwithstanding name, than his predecessor. The colonel had been Britain's consul at Harar, in Ethiopia, before retiring to Lamu. He had an Oxford degree, was a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and had a fiery disposition.

How much longer Lamu can resist the merciless march of time is anybody's guess. But there are a growing number of Lamuaphiles who join the islanders in their desire to make it standstill — or at least slow it down considerably. After experiencing the car-free, timeless delights of this yesterday world one can sympathize with the following agonized comment on time and living with the automobile: the smallest interval of time known to man is "that which occurs between the traffic signal turning green and the taxi driver behind you blowing his horn."

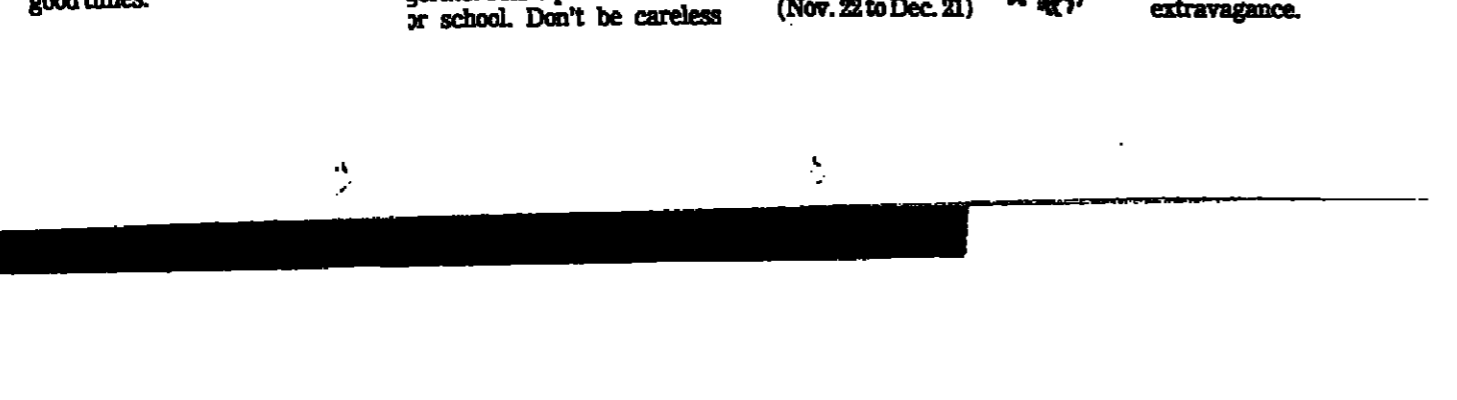
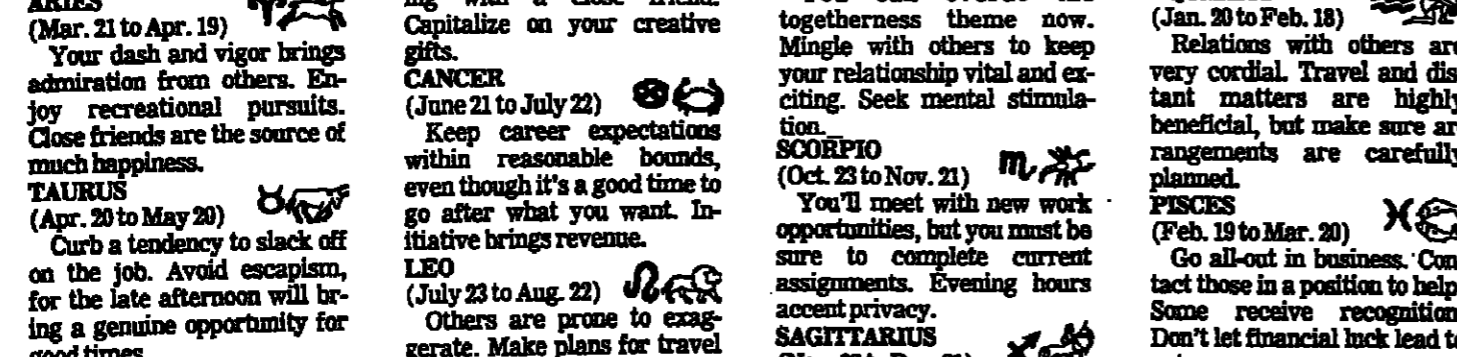
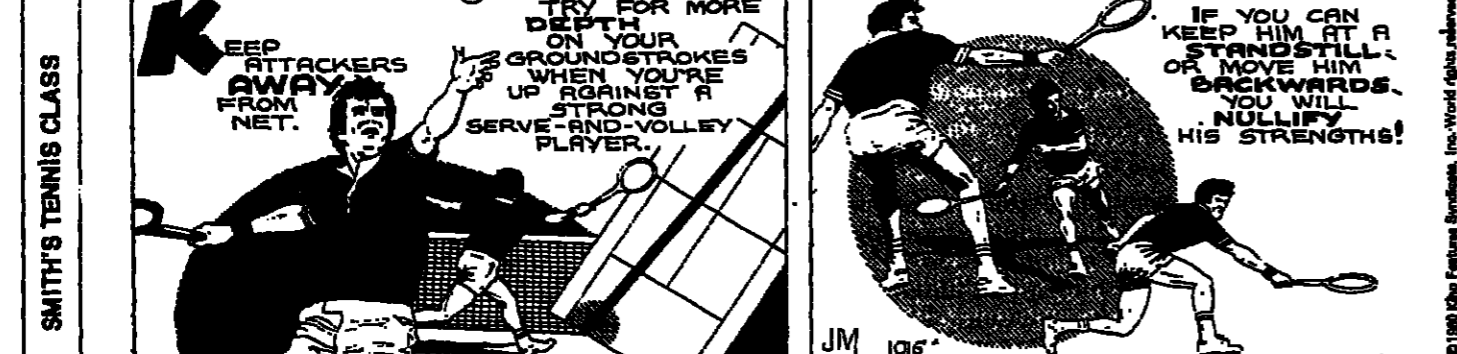
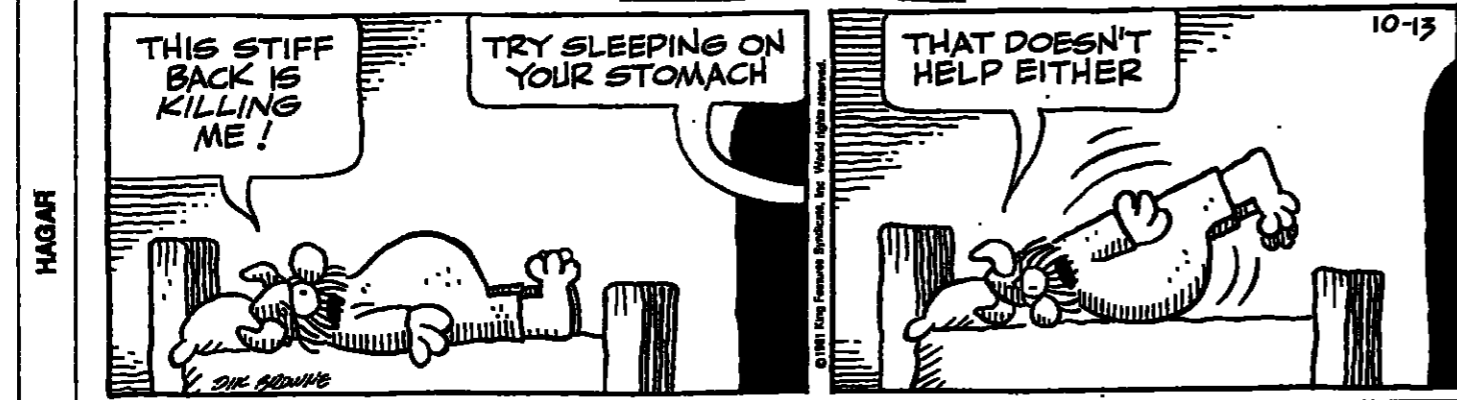
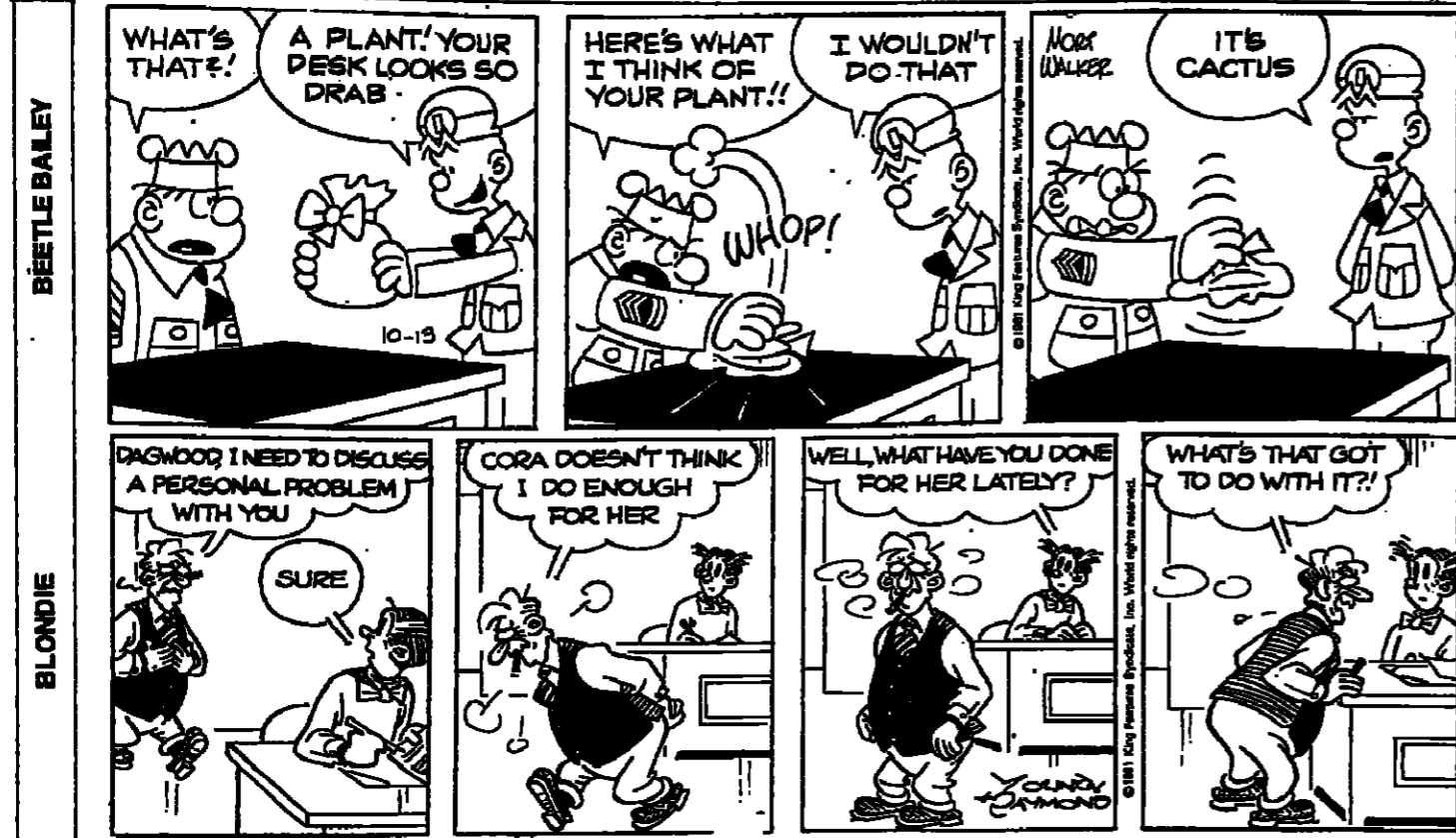


LAMU MUSEUM: Opened in 1971, it housed in an old colonial mansion that was once the home of the district commissioner. The museum brings home with some impact just how discerning a lifestyle Lamuans enjoyed at the height of the trading days.









WHAT'S THAT? A PLANT, YOUR DESK LOOKS SO DRAB. HERE'S WHAT I THINK OF YOUR PLANT!! I WOULDN'T DO THAT. MORE WALKER. IT'S CACTUS. WHOP!

DAGWOOD I NEED TO DISCUSS A PERSONAL PROBLEM WITH YOU. CORA DOESN'T THINK I DO ENOUGH FOR HER. WELL, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR HER LATELY? WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH IT? SURE. YOU'RE ON, BLISTER! RRRRRRRR... GOOD TRY, THOUGH.

THIS STIFF BACK IS KILLING ME! TRY SLEEPING ON YOUR STOMACH. THAT DOESN'T HELP EITHER.

HOO-BOY! PEACE HAS BECOME AS EXPENSIVE AS WAR. AND WE CANT AFFORD EITHER.

TO SHOW THAT OUR COMPANY IS COMPLETELY NON-SEXIST, DEAR... WE HIRED A BROAD IN SALES TODAY.

CAN YOU PUT A CURSE ON A BUREAUCRAT? JUST FILL OUT THIS FORM IN TRIPPLICATE AND I'LL TAKE IT TO THE COMMITTEE AND LET YOU KNOW IN THREE WEEKS. THEY'VE TAKEN OVER THE WORLD!

KEEP RITZKICKERS AWAY FROM NET. TRY FOR MORE DEPTH ON YOUR GRANDSTROKES WHEN YOU'RE UP AGAINST A SERVE-AND-VOLLEY PLAYER.

IF YOU CAN KEEP HIM AT A STANDSTILL OR MOVE HIM BACKWARDS, YOU WILL NULLIFY HIS STRENGTHS!

with details. Enjoy popularity at a party. VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Money can come and go quickly now. Be alert for chances to improve income, but don't let expenses escalate. SAFEGUARD your assets. LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You can overdo the togetherness theme now. Mingle with others to keep your relationship vital and exciting. Seek mental stimulation. SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You'll meet with new work opportunities, but you must be sure to complete current assignments. Evening hours accent privacy. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

Social life is active, but be careful not to keep others waiting. You're popular now, and friends will bring you desired benefits. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) There's plenty of activity on both the career and domestic fronts. Afternoon hours bring the chance you've been waiting for. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Relations with others are very cordial. Travel and distant matters are highly beneficial, but make sure arrangements are carefully planned. PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) Go all-out in business. Contact those in a position to help. Some receive recognition. Don't let financial luck lead to extravagance.

DENNIS the MENACE



'I LEARNED SOMETHIN' AT THE ZOO... THAT THERE'S PLAIN TURTLES AN' THERE'S SNAPPIN' TURTLES!'

arabnews Calendar

Table listing TV and radio schedules for Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, DUBAI, and Kuwait. Includes times and program names like 'Arabic News', 'Children's Songs', 'Arabic Series', etc.

Saudi Arabia

Table listing TV and radio schedules for Saudi Arabia. Includes times and program names like 'Arabic News', 'Children's Songs', 'Arabic Series', etc.

BBC

Table listing BBC TV and radio schedules. Includes times and program names like 'Arabic News', 'Children's Songs', 'Arabic Series', etc.

Radio Pakistan

Table listing Radio Pakistan TV and radio schedules. Includes times and program names like 'Arabic News', 'Children's Songs', 'Arabic Series', etc.

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Crossword puzzle grid with clues and answers. Clues include 'Neighbor of Sask.', 'Kitchen lure', 'Classy mount', etc.

Cryptogram puzzle with clues and a grid. Clues include 'Here's how to work it', 'AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW'.

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Contract Bridge

Contract Bridge advertisement for B. Jay Becker. Includes text: 'The Art of Circumvention', 'East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.', 'NORTH', 'WEST', 'EAST', 'SOUTH'.

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Advertisement for 'Believe It or Not!' featuring Mrs. Sandy Charles and a photograph of her. Text includes: 'Mrs. Sandy Charles of Cuba, New Mexico, gave birth to twin daughters... ONE IN CUBA, N.M. AND THE OTHER IN ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - 84 MILES AWAY'.



